

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, Phelan-McDermid Syndrome, also known as 22q13 Deletion Syndrome, is a rare genetic disorder caused by the absence of genes on the distal long arm of chromosome 22; and

WHEREAS, the disorder is generally characterized by low muscle tone, normal to accelerated growth, absent to severely delayed speech, moderate to profound mental retardation, and minor dysmorphic features; and

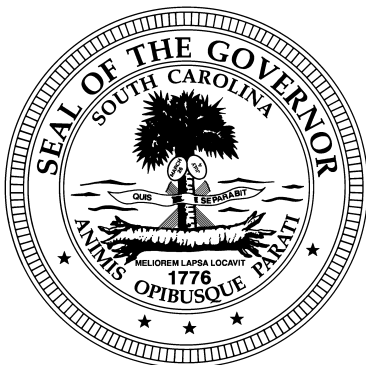
WHEREAS, behavioral characteristics of someone with Phelan-McDermid Syndrome can include chewing on clothing, bedding, toys and other non-food items, teeth grinding, tongue thrusting, hair pulling, and aversion to clothes; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 observance of Phelan-McDermid Syndrome helps raise awareness of this disorder and those whose lives it affects.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim July 21 - 27, 2008, as

PHELAN - MCDERMID SYNDROME AWARENESS WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to ensure that individuals with Phelan-McDermid Syndrome are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated throughout their lives.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA